



6 November 2024

**United Steelworkers (USW) Local 2010**

Principal Patrick Deane ([principal@queensu.ca](mailto:principal@queensu.ca))

Provost and Vice-Principal (Academic) Matthew Evans ([provost@queensu.ca](mailto:provost@queensu.ca))

Vice-Principal (Finance and Administration) Donna Janiec ([janiecd@queensu.ca](mailto:janiecd@queensu.ca))

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Associate Vice-Principal (Faculty Relations) Dan McKeown ([dan.mckeown@queensu.ca](mailto:dan.mckeown@queensu.ca))

Faculty Relations Office Director Michael Villeneuve ([michael.villeneuve@queensu.ca](mailto:michael.villeneuve@queensu.ca))

CC: PSAC 901 ([president.psac901@gmail.com](mailto:president.psac901@gmail.com))

To the Queen's University Administration:

Dear Principal Deane, Provost Evans, and Queen's Administration,

On behalf of United Steelworkers (USW) Local 2010, representing Queen's University support staff, academic assistants, and residence dons, we write to express our steadfast support for Queen's University postdoctoral scholars, represented by PSAC 901. It is deeply concerning to witness the administration's neglect of postdocs' basic rights and its reluctance to meet reasonable demands for fair compensation, healthcare, relocation assistance, and mental health resources. As highly skilled professionals, postdocs are integral to Queen's academic mission, significantly enhancing research, teaching, and service—contributions that bolster the university's national and global standing.

Queen's postdocs deserve equitable treatment, including fair wages, comprehensive healthcare access, and the support needed to thrive professionally and personally. Many have relocated to Kingston, bringing expertise that enriches both the Queen's community and the broader research landscape in Ontario. Denying them these fundamental rights is not only unjust but also undermines the university's stated commitment to research excellence and community welfare.



We are alarmed by Queen's escalation of pressure tactics in the bargaining process, including the possibility of a lockout, in response to our postdoctoral colleagues' reasonable demands. We strongly urge the Queen's administration to negotiate in good faith with PSAC 901. Furthermore, we stand with PSAC 901 in condemning the cancellation of healthcare benefits, an action that disrupts the critical work these scholars undertake.

USW Local 2010 stands proudly in solidarity with Queen's postdocs and PSAC 901. Together, we advocate for the fair treatment and resources that these valued colleagues and researchers deserve.

Sincerely,

Kelly J. Orser, President  
USW Locals 2010, 2010-01, and 2010-02